Message

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Sent: 1/3/2018 4:43:24 PM
To: ORD-Exec-Council-Directors [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=27ecb6069df540d1b77c19b84ba8dea4-ORD-Exec-Co]; ORD-IOAA-Front Office Support [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2a6228178a264ebb9d4ed55c6b23d304-ORD-IOAA-Fr]
CC: SHC Immediate Office [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a01174988b3f4abd80f1384e6fecc150-SHC Immedia]; SHC MIs [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b9ccd9a178844b6e917d6644339b73e4-SHC MIs]
Subject: SHC Weekly report for January 3, 2018

Sustainable and Healthy Communities (SHC) Research Program
Report for January 3, 2018

Hot Issues

None.

SHC News

EPA National Remedy Review Board (NRRB) Meeting on West Lake Superfund Site
A major focus of the Sustainable and Healthy Communities National Research Program is to provide the science and technical support needed to cleanup Superfund and other contaminated sites, returning the land to local communities as safe, productive resources. Next week, SHC researchers will participate in a meeting of the NRRB to discuss remedy options for the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site located in Bridgeton, MO (Region 7). The NRRB meets quarterly to review and provide input to decision-makers on Superfund remedial actions projected to cost more than $50 million. The NRRB is composed of one representative from each Region, one representative each from the Office of General Council and Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, and two representatives from the Office of Research and Development.

P3 Solicitation Now Open - Discovering the Next Generation of Solutions to Environmental Problems
EPA's People, Prosperity, and the Planet (P3) Program released its 15th Annual P3 Awards Solicitation on December 21. It's open until February 7. This competition encourages interdisciplinary teams of college students to use Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) principles to create innovative projects aimed at researching and developing solutions to real world challenges. P3 includes four broad research categories that are within EPA's statutory authority, and this solicitation is requesting applications in the following areas:

- Improve Air Quality
- Provide Clean and Safe Water
- Prevent Contamination of Land, and
- Ensure Safety of Chemicals in the Marketplace

Helping Oregon Farmers to Improve Farmland Management and Water Quality
Next week, Jana Compton will meet with the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Local Area Committee for the Upper Willamette and Upper Siuslaw Watersheds (UWUS LAC) in Monroe, OR to discuss potential ways to reduce nitrate leaching to groundwater in the area, a local priority. Dr. Compton is leading a study in Oregon's southern Willamette Valley to determine best practices for minimizing nitrate leaching while maintaining crop yield. The study is helping identify ways to find ways that simultaneously maintain crop yields, save farmers' fertilizer costs, and better protect

local groundwater. ODA LACs are charged with developing Area Plans that identify strategies to prevent and control pollution from agricultural activities to achieve and maintain water quality standards.

Linking Remediation to Community Benefits in Michigan

At the request of the Michigan Office of Great Lakes, SHC researchers were invited to a meeting of the Great Lakes Area of Concern (AOC) partners, February 6 & 7, to provide guidance on tools and approaches that can help AOCs advance "R2R2R"—a step-by-step process for moving from Remediation to Restoration to Revitalization. AOCs are areas that have been designated under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement as significantly impaired for beneficial uses. Michigan has 14 of the remaining 27 AOCs in the Great Lakes basin, and the state has asked EPA for help to better understand R2R2R, with particular interest in looking at economic and public benefits of AOC clean-ups.

Oil Spill Book Chapter Features SHC Research

SHC scientist Marc Mills' research on passive sampler usage to determine the source of dissolved polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) has been published as chapter in the book *Oil Spill Environmental Forensics Case Studies*. Researchers used the Ottawa River in Toledo, OH to test the effectiveness of passive samplers in not only measuring pollutant concentrations and bioavailability, but also determining the source(s) of contamination. This was done by deploying passive samplers over an extended period of time. This innovation has the potential to better target remediation and potentially enforcement actions.

SHC Soil and Dust Research Featured

The Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) has featured multimedia lead exposure modeling done by ORD/SHC scientists in a series of blog posts (http://blogs.edf.org/health/2017/12/15/childrens-lead-exposure/). The latest posting, dated December 15, uses the estimates of how lead exposure sources vary with early childhood age published by ORD last year in EHP (https://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/ehp1605/) to argue that soil and dust are critical sources of lead exposure risk in early childhood. These estimates may be important as EPA prepares a response to a court-ordered 90-day deadline to update the Agency's 17-year-old standard for lead contamination in soil and dust.

Upcoming Events:

Grantee Kick Off Meeting: Integrating Human Health and Well-Being with Ecosystem Services

January 25 and 26, 2018
Research Triangle Park

SHC and NCER are teaming up to host four newly awarded research project teams under the RFA, "INTEGRATING HUMAN HEALTH AND WELL-BEING WITH ECOSYSTEM SERVICES" for collaborative, community-based research that will foster better understanding of how ecosystems support human health and well-being. The funded research teams will examine how communities can integrate ecosystem services with human health and well-being to inform decision-making and management practices. The information developed will allow communities to integrate environmental, societal, and economic information and to better manage multiple stressors and their cumulative impacts on humans and ecosystems. The ultimate goal is to help communities achieve their own objectives.

The four projects are:

University of Vermont	Exploring the Links between Harmful Algal Blooms and Human Well-Being: How and Why Communities Take Action
University of California, Davis	Human Health, Ecosystem Services, and their Economic Value as Part of a Sustainability Assessment for the Sacramento Region
East Carolina University	Community-level Management of Human Health Risks from Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) with Defensive Natural Capital Investments

Oregon State University	Integrating Human Wellbeing and Ecosystem Services into Near Term Action Planning in the Puget Sound

International Association for Landscape Ecology Conference
Multiple SHC scientists will present research on ecosystem goods and services as well as linkages between ecology and human health at the US Regional – International Association for Landscape Ecology's Annual Meeting in Chicago. The presentations include: highlighting a new method for mapping floodplains in areas that lack inundation maps, assessing the value of vegetative cover and landscape management practices in limiting sediment runoff due to extreme weather events, and exploring the effects of exposure to natural environments on obesity rates and perceived general health and well-being.

National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE)
January 23-24, 2018
The National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE) will hold its 18th National Conference and Global Forum, *The Science, Business, and Education of Sustainable Infrastructure: Building Resilience in a Changing World*. SHC's Alan Hecht has been an advisor in planning the event which will explore how systems thinking and a sustainability framework can serve society through natural or built infrastructure.

New Partners for Smart Growth
Feb 1 – 3, 2018
SHC will present materials and personal tool demonstrations at a booth at the New Partners for Smart Growth conference in San Francisco. In addition, the Region 10 RESES project, *Decision Integration for Strong Communities*, which is utilizing SHC tools, will be discussed in a panel presentation by SHC scientists involved.